REMARKS

Claims 23-26 as amended remain herein.

The foregoing amendments to the claims place this application fully in condition for allowance, and certainly in better condition for any appeal. Accordingly, entry of this amendment and allowance of all claims are respectfully solicited.

Claim 23 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kunii ("Kunii") in view of Tanaka et al. ("Tanaka"), Applicants' Admitted Prior Art ("APA") and/or Ohta et al. ("Ohta").

Claim 23 as amended recites that the sheet resistance of the LDD region is from about 20 kΩ/□ to about 100 kΩ/□. As conceded in the Office Action, none of Kunii, Tanaka or Ohta teaches or suggests a sheet resistance in this range. Despite this absence of teaching or suggestion from three different references, the Office Action nevertheless cited to page 3, lines 6-9, of the instant application for the alleged teaching that the range of about 20 kΩ/□ to about 100 kΩ/□ is "the art-recognized normal range" and that the parameter is "subject to routine experimentation and optimization." This rationale misreads and misapplies the disclosure of the instant application.

The instant application states on page 3, lines 6-9, that "On the drain side, it is estimated that the carrier density of electrons, the majority carriers in this region, is approximately $10^{16}/cm^3$ to $10^{18}/cm^3$ when the sheet resistance of the n-region is in the range of from 20 kΩ/□ to 100 kΩ/□." While this indicates that it is preferable to have the sheet resistance in this range, it does not admit or state that such range is "art-recognized normal" or achievable during routine testing. To the contrary, as the instant application states, beginning at page 3, line 21, a sheet resistance of this range in the prior art resulted in an increase in OFF current that degraded the image

quality of the prior art display device. The display device of Applicants' amended claim 23 allows for a sheet resistance within the recited range with less image degradation.

It is therefore not well known in the art to create sheet resistance of about 20 kΩ/□ to about 100 kΩ/□ in combination with the other limitations of claim 23. This conclusion is evidenced by the lack of disclosure in any of three cited prior art references. Claim 23 is accordingly patentably distinct over the cited prior art. Withdrawal of the rejection of claim 23 and allowance of the same are therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 24-26, which depend from claim 23, were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kunii in view of Tanaka, the APA and/or Ohta. For at least the reasons discussed with respect to claim 23, these dependent claims are likewise patentably distinct over the applied prior art. Withdrawal of the rejection of claims 24-26 and allowance of the same are therefore requested.

Claim 23 was objected to for failing to state what device(s) the recited "OFF current" applied to. Claim 23 has been amended to recite suppressing OFF current in the thin film transistors. Withdrawal of the objection of claim 23 is therefore requested.

Accordingly, the application is now in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

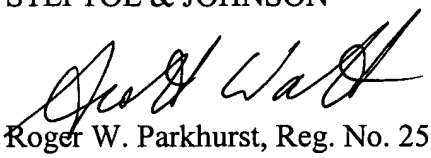
Any amendments to the claims not specifically argued to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art have been made for clarity, a purpose unrelated to patentability.

If a telephone conference would be of value, the Examiner is requested to call Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge/credit any fee deficiencies or overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-4293 (Order No. 28951.5289).

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON



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